

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 098015

EXDIS

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR VE

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER'S FORTHCOMING WASHINGTON VISIT

REF: CARACAS 4320

CARACAS 4339

1. WE APPRECIATE YOUR REPORT (REFTEL) OF POST-CANCELLATION CONVERSATION WITH FONMIN ESCOVAR AND ARE FAVORABLY IMPRESSED WITH POSITIVE TONE HE DISPLAYS BOTH WITH RESPECT TO POSTPONEMENT OF VISIT AND ONWARD COURSE OF US-VENEZUELAN RELATIONS.

2. TEN-DAY STAY IN US WILL PROVIDE FONMIN AMPLE OPPORTUNITY FOR INTENSIVE EXPOSURE TO AND CONVERSATION ON VARIOUS FACETS US SCENE, LA POLICY, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAVORABLY AFFECTING FUTURE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. WE SHALL BE GLAD TO CONTRIBUTE IN EVERY WAY POSSIBLE TO MAKING THIS A FRUITFUL EXPERIENCE. WE SHALL CONSULT WITH VENEZUELAN EMBASSY AND STAND READY TO ASSIST
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IT IN ARRANGING DESIRED CONTACTS WITH THE PRESS. THROUGH

"H" WE WILL ALSO ASSIST ESCOVAR IN ACHIEVING CONGRESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS OF TYPE HE DESIRES AND WHICH WILL CONTRIBUTE TO BETTER AND MORE CONSTRUCTIVE UNDERSTANDING BY LEGISLATIVE BRANCH OF CURRENT REALITIES OF VENEZUELAN SCENE. WE BELIEVE WE ARE IN A POSITION TO MAKE A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION ON THESE FRONTS.

3. WITHIN FRAMEWORK AND LIMITS OF OASGA AND RELATED PRESENCE IN WASHINGTON OF ALL OTHER LA FOREIGN MINISTERS, WE ANTICIPATE THAT SECRETARY WILL DEVOTE SPECIAL ATTENTION AND COURTESY TO FONMINS OF THOSE COUNTRIES AFFECTED BY POSTPONEMENT OF HIS VISIT. AT SAME TIME, WE MUST MAKE CLEAR THAT REFERENCE CONTAINED IN PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE (STATE 093044) WAS TO PROSPECT OF PERSONAL ENCOUNTER ON SOCIAL OCCASIONS RATHER THAN SPECIFIC PERSONAL AUDIENCE.

4. WE AGREE WITH YOU THAT FONMIN'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON PROVIDES POSITIVE OPPORTUNITY FOR US, THROUGH COOPERATION AND IMAGINATIVE PROGRAMMING, TO ADVANCE CAUSE OF US-VENEZUELAN RELATIONS. WE WILL BE CONTINUING CONTACT WITH YOU AS TO WAYS AND MEANS OF ACHIEVING THIS. KISSINGER

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